



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

1-13-04
RCE
10/B

Applicants : Van Barlow, et al.
Serial No. : 10/017,746
Filed : December 7, 2001
For : COATED STAPLE AND FASTENING TOOL FOR THE SAME
Examiner : Lopez, Michelle
Art Unit : 3721
Docket No. : 510P004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER H3703

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action dated September 3, 2003 (the period for response to which has been extended to January 3, 2004 by virtue of the accompanying fee), please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 5 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
on December 30, 2003 (Date)

Kevin S. Lemack
Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative

[Signature]
Signature

December 30, 2003
Date